

University of Mississippi

eGrove

---

Publications

Civil Rights Archive

---

1-1-1900

## The L. Q. C. Lamar Society

Author Unknown

Follow this and additional works at: [https://egrove.olemiss.edu/civ\\_pubs](https://egrove.olemiss.edu/civ_pubs)



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Unknown, Author, "The L. Q. C. Lamar Society" (1900). *Publications*. 42.  
[https://egrove.olemiss.edu/civ\\_pubs/42](https://egrove.olemiss.edu/civ_pubs/42)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Civil Rights Archive at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Publications by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact [egrove@olemiss.edu](mailto:egrove@olemiss.edu).

## The L.Q.C. Lamar Society

During the past twenty years public officials in the South have spent so much of their time and energy fighting integration and the Federal Government that very little attention has been devoted to attempts to solve some of the South's many problems. Among the more pressing problems that continue to persist are: (1) low wages and per capita income, (2) rural poverty, (3) unemployment, (4) sub-standard housing, (5) an inadequate educational system, (6) an increasing rate of population growth among those families who can least afford it, and (7) inadequate planning on the part of state and local governments. It is high time that native Southerners begin to seek positive, practical solutions to some of the problems of the South.

It can be argued that to some extent Southerners have had very little to say about their own destiny during the past 100 years. Consider the following historical periods. Immediately after the Civil War during the period of Reconstruction (1865-1877) the South was still under the direct control of the Federal Government. Indeed, during some of these years Federal troops were still on the scene. Although in theory the reins of power were transferred back to the South around 1877, in practice the South remained at the mercy of Northern business interests for a period of nearly 50 years. The period between 1877 and the late 1920's was characterized by the exploitation of the South's natural resources by Northern capitalists seeking a short-term payoff without regard for the long-term implications of their actions. The allocation of land, timber, mineral, and human resources in the South during this period was determined primarily by forces outside of the region. In the 1930's the South was particularly hard hit by the Depression. Survival during that period was greatly dependent on the New Deal. Again the major decisions affecting the South were being made by outsiders rather than Southerners. And, of course, the story of the 1950's and 1960's is well known.

Fundamental to the establishment of the L.Q.C. Lamar Society is the assumption that there are a large number of energetic, young, native Southerners in the region today who have a strong desire to seek realistic, dynamic progressive solutions to the South's problems. These individuals recognize the great potential which the South has in terms of both human resources and natural resources. The fact that the South still has a chance to avoid some of the problems of the North (particularly urban problems) is well known to this group of individuals.

It is the object of the L.Q.C. Lamar Society to capitalize on the talents of some of the South's more promising future leaders by creating a non-political, non-partisan organization which can bring together native Southerners who are committed to finding practical solutions to some of the South's problems. The organization shall



include independents, Republicans, and Democrats. The common bond among its members shall not be ideological in nature, but rather a common desire to see the South achieve its full potential.

### Programs

The Society shall engage in the following activities:

1. Workshops. Each year five or six workshops will be held throughout the South on specific problems, e.g., economic development. Speakers from varying points of view will present alternative solutions to given problems. A concerted effort will be made to invite public officials and business and community leaders to attend these workshops and interact with the speakers and the members of the Society who are present at the workshop. Through this vehicle we hope to involve an even larger number of people in the process of finding workable solutions to particular problems.

2. Position Papers. Periodically we shall develop position papers on specific problem areas and propose possible solutions. Every effort will be made to obtain as broad a distribution as possible for these papers. We shall encourage their use by public officials and individuals seeking election to public office in the South.

3. Journal. Ultimately we plan to publish a journal. Again we shall focus on problems and possible solutions. We shall seek widespread distribution of this journal - particularly among present and future leaders of the South.

4. Other. We shall also explore other techniques for providing the public with facts about some of the South's more pressing problems as well as viable solutions from which intelligent choices may be made.

### Organization Structure

The organization shall be non-profit and non-political. We shall apply for tax-exempt status. Membership shall be open to any Southerner who is sympathetic with the goals of the organization and who pays his annual membership fee. The organization shall consist of the following officers:

1. President (elected by membership)
2. Vice President (elected by membership)
3. Treasurer (elected by membership)
4. Executive Secretary (appointed by Board of Directors)
5. Board of Directors (elected by supporting members for three-year period)
6. Advisory Board (made up of well known Southern leaders and elected by the Board of Directors)



The Executive Secretary will be the only paid officer of the organization. He should also have a Secretary. The Board of Directors should be a working Board consisting of 12 people. The Advisory Board shall consist of 12 members whose names will bring prestige to the organization.

#### Finances

Membership dues shall be charged according to the following schedule:

1. <u>Organization Member</u>	\$1,000 per year
2. <u>Supporting Member</u>	200 per year
3. <u>Member</u>	25 per year
4. <u>Student Member</u>	10 per year

We shall seek additional financial support from private foundations.